

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 02642 061047Z

41

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-05 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 /074 W

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R 061035Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7942

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 2642

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BGEN, TH

SUBJ: PHITSANULOK IRRIGATION PROJECT

REF: A) 75 BANGKOK 20497 B) 75 BANGKOK 18396

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FINALLY DECIDED TO AWARD THE CONSTRUCTION SUPREVISION CONTRACT TO A CONSORTIUM OF ELECTRO CONSULT (ITAL6), NIPPON KOEI (JAPAN) AND SOUTHEAST ASIA TECHNOLOGY CO. (THAILAND). HOWEVER, THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE REPORTEDLY IS REFUSING TO SIGN THE CONTRACT UNTIL THE WINNER AGREES TO KICK BACK THE "STANDARD" TEN PER CENT FOR THE MINISTER TO USE IN THE CURRENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN. THERE ALSO MAY BE A PROBLEM OF PRICE, WITH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE'S ROYAL IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT (RID), DESIRING TO PAY A LOWER AMOUNT FOR THE THAI ENGINEERS VIS-A-VIS THE RATES PAID TO FOREIGN ENGINEERS.

2. IN ANY CASE, THE WINNING CONSORTIUM APPARENTLY IS REFUSING TO KICK BACK SUCH A LARGE AMOUNT AND MAJOR PROGRESS ON THE PROJECT MAY HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE APRIL 4 ELECTIONS. IN THE MEANTIME, RID ENGINEERS ARE PROCEEDING TO DO PRELIMINARY WORK AT THE SITE, WHICH WAS VISITED BY A COMMERCIAL OFFICER TWO MONTHS AGO.

WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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